News Release: BLM/Lakeview District/Klamath Falls Resource Area

August 16, 2000: And the Winner Is...



Lynan Baghott of Klamath Falls is the lucky winner of a two-year old sorrel gelding, offered in a raffle by the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the bureau of Land Management (BLM). The winning ticket was drawn Saturday night during the Jefferson State Stampede Rodeo at the Klamath County Fair. Lynan and her husband Tim own Cascadia Ranch and Stables, in Klamath Falls. They think that Wiley will be a perfect horse for our son, Shaun. In fact, Shaun, has already renamed the horse "Blaze". Shaun, who is eight, is planning on joining the 4H program next year. The family hopes that, once trained, Blaze will prove a winner in future 4H competition. There is a good chance that those hopes will become a reality, according to BLM Wild Horse Specialist, Tonya Picnkney. "He is so good natured, and he learns quickly?" Blaze should feel right at home at Cascadia Ranch, because the family already owns a BLM horse.

The horse was one of several wild horses captured last year near Beatty Butte, east of Lakeview. Picnkney has worked with him for the past five months, first putting a halter on him and getting him used to being touched by humans, then gradually working towards saddling him, and finally riding him. By fair time, Picnkney had ridden the horse at least 30 times. Picnkney stated "It's hard to say goodbye, but I know that he is going to a good home and will be well cared for".

In accordance with the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, the BLM manages nearly 2000 horses on Oregon's public lands. There are 21 active Herd Management Areas (HMAs) in the state, most of which are located in eastern Oregon. In accordance with the Federal mandate the agency is responsible for the "protection, management, and control" of the animals. To help ensure viability and health of the herds, as well as maintaining a balance between other wildlife and domestic livestock, horses are gathered from each HMA every three to five years. The Burns Wild Horse Corrals, near Hines, Oregon, is the holding facility for all excess wild horses gathered in Oregon. There, the horses are prepared for the "Adopt-a-Horse-Program". For more information about adopting a wild horse, or upcoming auctions please contact your local BLM office or visit the website, at www-a.blm.gov/whb/. You may also call 1-800-417-9647. In Klamath Falls, you can reach the BLM at 883-6916.